Legislation for Devolution of More Powers to Panchayats and Co-operatives

481. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI P. K. KUNJACHEN:

SHRI E. BALANANDAN:

SHRI MOTURU HANUMANTHA RAO:

SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI:

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report which appeared in 'the Hindustan Times' dated 1st January, 1989 stating that the Prime Minister had announced to effect a comprehensive legislation to amend the Constitution so that there was greater devolution of powers to the grass roots level, particularly to the Panchayats and Co-operatives;

(b) if so, what are the outlines and salient features thereof; and

(c) whether such a move would decentralise power or by-pass the State Governments resulting into more centralisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The subject of revitalisation of Panchayati Raj Institutions in the country is under active consideration of the Government.

12.00 NOON

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Economic Survey, 1988-89

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Economic Survey, 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7231/89].

Report and Accounts (1987-88) of the National Cooperative Tobacco Growers' Federation Limited, Anand and related papers

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) Sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the National Cooperative Tobacco Growers' Federation Limited, Anand, for the year 1987-88, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.

(ii) Review by Government on the working of the Federation.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7410/89 for (i) and (ii)].

Apprenticeship (Amendment) Rules, 1988

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 37 of the Apprentices Act, 1961, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Labour Notification G.S.R. No. 810, dated the 8th October, 1988, publishing the Apprenticeship (Amendment) Rules, 1988. [Placed in Library See No. LT-7217/89].

I. **Report and Accounts (1987-88) of the Artificial Limbs Manufactur-**